

REMARKS

Claims 9-17 are pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 9-12. Applicants also thank the Examiner for clarifying via a teleconference that Claim 9 was also allowed, despite the clerical error in the Office Action on page 2 designating it otherwise rejected. Claims 13-17 remain rejected.

In the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants cancelled Claims 13-17. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application directed to any unclaimed or cancelled subject matter herein.

Applicants amended Claim 9 to remove the word "and". The deletion of the word "and" does not change the substance of the claim nor add new subject matter.

Applicants believe this application is now in a condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request, therefore, entry of the amendments and an early and favorable allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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